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(54) **REMOTE CORIOLIS FLOWMETER SIZING AND ORDERING SYSTEM**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **702/45**; 705/26
(58) **Field of Search** 702/45, 50, 100, 702/188; 705/26, 27

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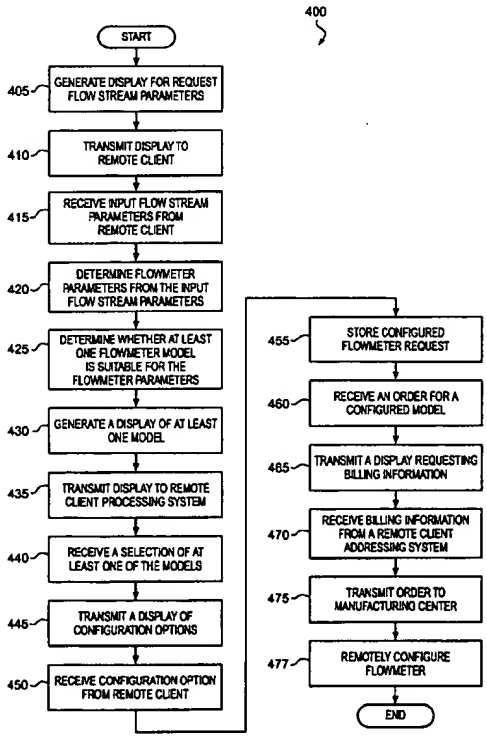
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system that provides a remote ordering system for a Coriolis flowmeter. The system is provided by a server. The server begins by receiving input flow stream parameters from a remote client computer. The server then determines flowmeter parameters from the input flow stream parameters received from the remote client computer. The server then determines at least one model of flowmeter suitable for the flowmeter parameters. The suitable models of flowmeters are then transmitted to a remote computer where a customer may then place an order for one of the models suitable for the flowmeter parameters.

25 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



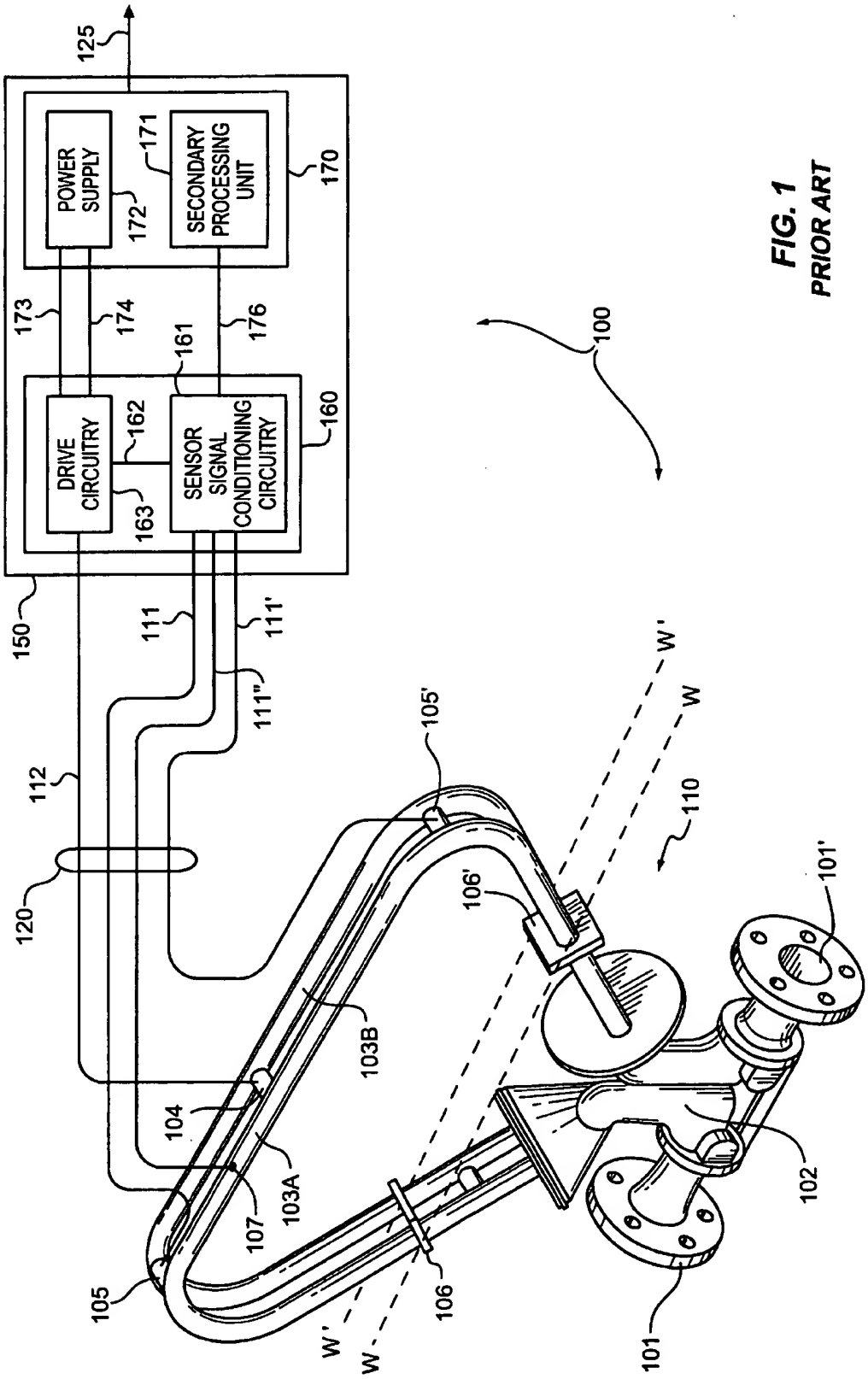


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART

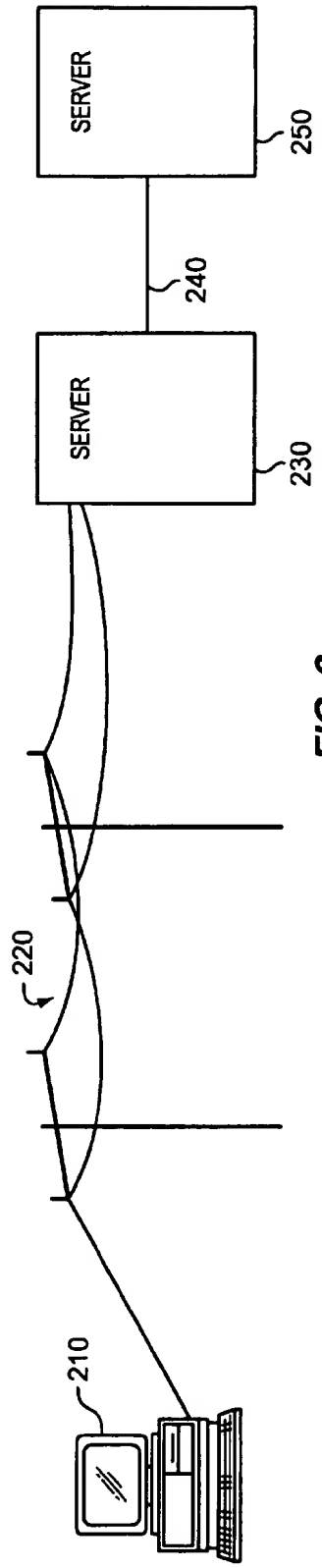


FIG. 2
PRIOR ART

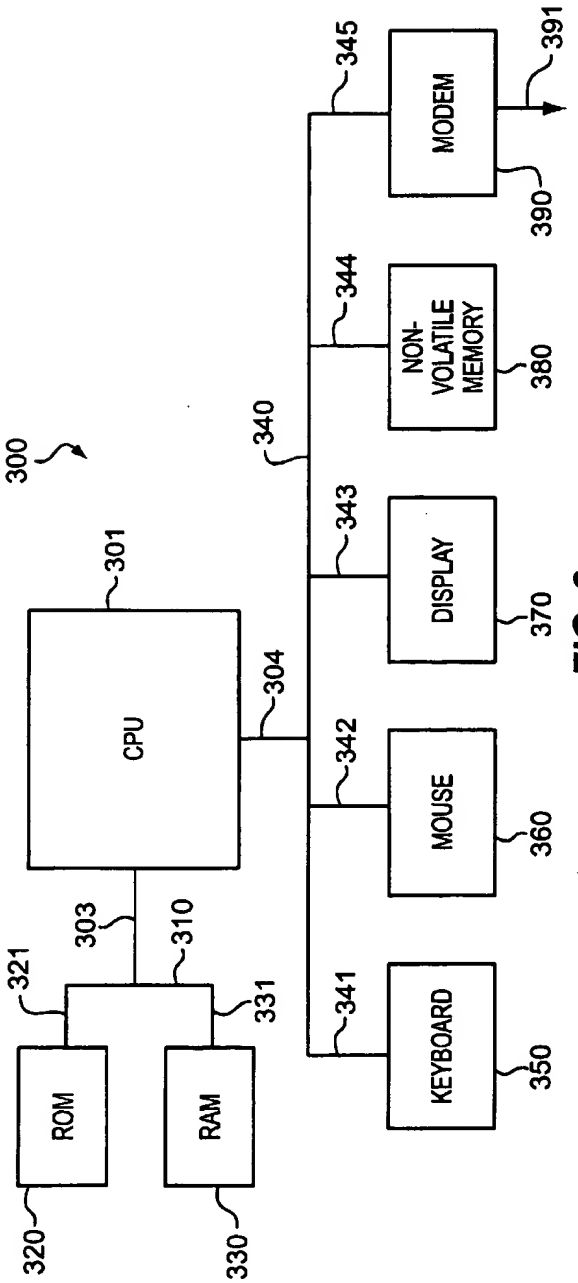


FIG. 3
PRIOR ART

FIG. 4

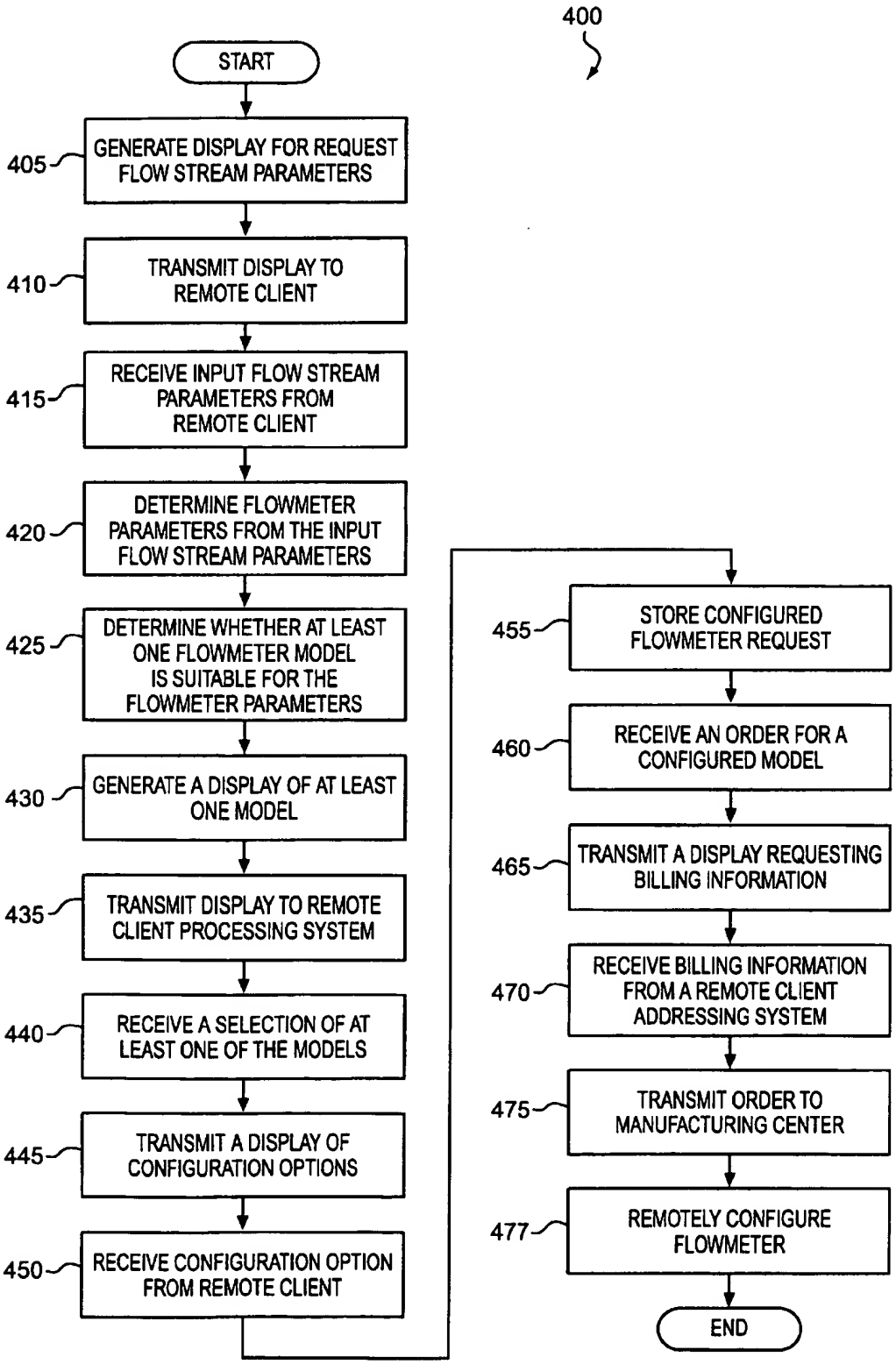

400
START
405
GENERATE DISPLAY FOR REQUEST FLOW STREAM PARAMETERS
410
TRANSMIT DISPLAY TO REMOTE CLIENT
415
RECEIVE INPUT FLOW STREAM PARAMETERS FROM REMOTE CLIENT
420
DETERMINE FLOWMETER PARAMETERS FROM THE INPUT FLOW STREAM PARAMETERS
425
DETERMINE WHETHER AT LEAST ONE FLOWMETER MODEL IS SUITABLE FOR THE FLOWMETER PARAMETERS
430
GENERATE A DISPLAY OF AT LEAST ONE MODEL
435
TRANSMIT DISPLAY TO REMOTE CLIENT PROCESSING SYSTEM
440
RECEIVE A SELECTION OF AT LEAST ONE OF THE MODELS
445
TRANSMIT A DISPLAY OF CONFIGURATION OPTIONS
450
RECEIVE CONFIGURATION OPTION FROM REMOTE CLIENT
455
STORE CONFIGURED FLOWMETER REQUEST
460
RECEIVE AN ORDER FOR A CONFIGURED MODEL
465
TRANSMIT A DISPLAY REQUESTING BILLING INFORMATION
470
RECEIVE BILLING INFORMATION FROM A REMOTE CLIENT ADDRESSING SYSTEM
475
TRANSMIT ORDER TO MANUFACTURING CENTER
477
REMOTELY CONFIGURE FLOWMETER
END

FIG. 5

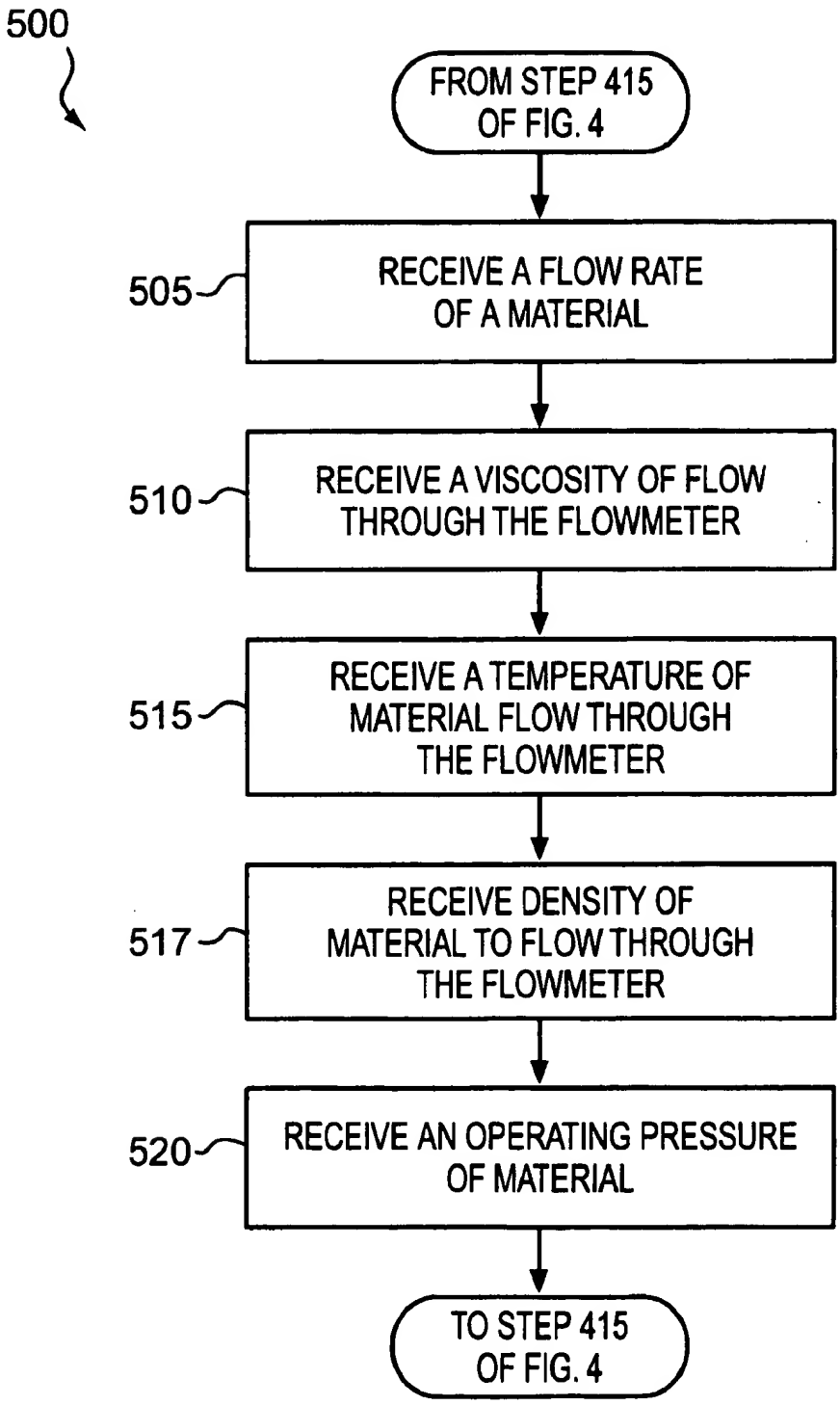

500
FROM STEP 415 OF FIG. 4
505
RECEIVE A FLOW RATE OF A MATERIAL
510
RECEIVE A VISCOSITY OF FLOW THROUGH THE FLOWMETER
515
RECEIVE A TEMPERATURE OF MATERIAL FLOW THROUGH THE FLOWMETER
517
RECEIVE DENSITY OF MATERIAL TO FLOW THROUGH THE FLOWMETER
520
RECEIVE AN OPERATING PRESSURE OF MATERIAL
TO STEP 415 OF FIG. 4

FIG. 6

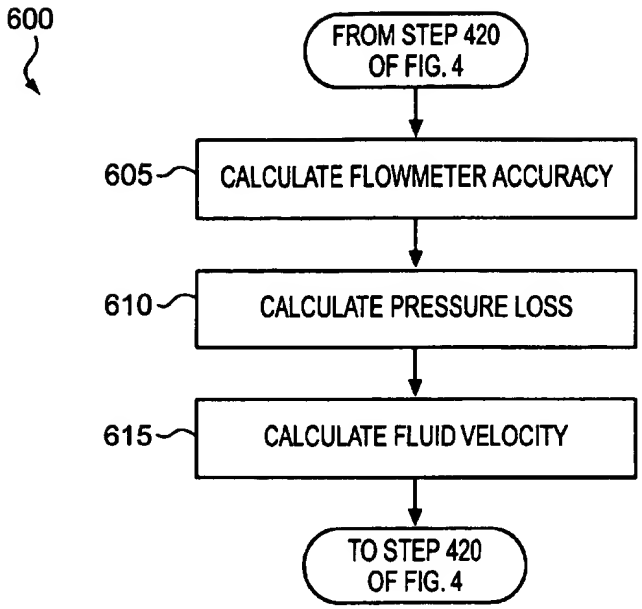
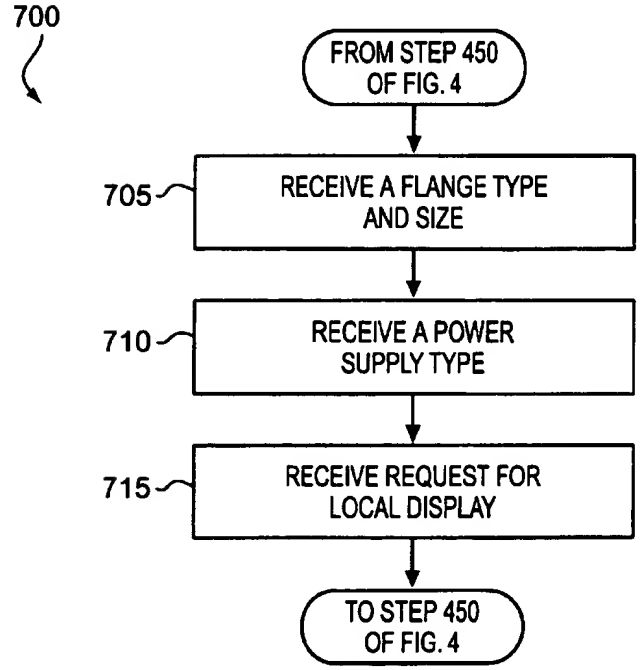

600
FROM STEP 420 OF FIG. 4
605
CALCULATE FLOWMETER ACCURACY
610
CALCULATE PRESSURE LOSS
615
CALCULATE FLUID VELOCITY
TO STEP 420 OF FIG. 4

FIG. 7


700
FROM STEP 450 OF FIG. 4
705
RECEIVE A FLANGE TYPE AND SIZE
710
RECEIVE A POWER SUPPLY TYPE
715
RECEIVE REQUEST FOR LOCAL DISPLAY
TO STEP 450 OF FIG. 4

REMOTE CORIOLIS FLOWMETER SIZING AND ORDERING SYSTEM

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to Coriolis mass flowmeters. More particularly, this invention relates to a computer system for receiving customer orders of Coriolis flowmeters. Still more particularly, this invention relates to a system executed by a server which a customer may access from a remote system and input desired flow parameters and be given choices of Coriolis mass flowmeters to select from to order.

PROBLEM

A Coriolis mass flowmeter measures mass flow and other information of materials flowing through a conduit in the flowmeter. Exemplary Coriolis flowmeters are disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,109,524 of Aug. 29, 1978, U.S. Pat. No. 4,491,025 of Jan. 1, 1985, and U.S. Pat. No. Re. 31,450 of Feb. 11, 1982, all to J. E. Smith et al. These flowmeters have one or more conduits of straight or curved configuration. Each conduit configuration has a set of natural vibration modes, which may be of a simple bending, torsional or coupled type. Each conduit is driven to oscillate at resonance in one of these natural modes. Material flows into the flowmeter from a connected pipeline on the inlet side of the flowmeter, is directed through the conduit or conduits, and exits the flowmeter through the outlet side of the flowmeter. The material flowing through the pipeline may be gas, liquid, solid, and any combination of these three. The natural vibration modes of the vibrating, material filled system are defined in part by the combined mass of the conduits and the material flowing within the conduits.

When there is no flow through the flowmeter, all points along the conduit oscillate due to an applied driver force with identical phase or small initial fixed phase offset. As material begins to flow, Coriolis forces cause each point along the conduit to have a different phase. The phase on the inlet side of the conduit lags the driver, while the phase on the outlet side of the conduit leads the driver. Pick-off sensors on the conduit(s) produce sinusoidal signals representative of the motion of the conduit(s). Signals output from the pick-off sensors are processed to determine the phase difference between the pick-off sensors. The phase difference between two pick-off sensor signals is proportional to the mass flow rate of material through the conduit (s).

There are many different models of Coriolis flowmeters. Micro Motion Inc. of Boulder markets many types of Coriolis flowmeters. It is a problem for a user to determine a proper model of Coriolis flowmeter to be used in measuring mass flow rates through a pipeline.

In order to determine the flowmeter model of the proper size and parameters for a pipeline, flow stream parameters for the pipeline must be known. Flow stream parameters include material flow rate, material density, material viscosity, material temperature, material operating pressure. From these flow stream parameters, parameters for a flowmeter to insert into the pipeline can be determined. Flowmeter parameters include meter accuracy, pressure loss, and material velocity. The flowmeter parameters and flow stream parameters are used to determine the models of flowmeters that can be used to measure mass flow rate in the pipeline.

It is common to use software programs executed by a computer to determine the proper model. However, this requires that meter selection and sizing occur on premises where the computer executing the software resides. Heretofore, there has been no way for a user to log onto a computer to remotely access sizing software and order a desired flowmeter without the intervention of a human operator.

SOLUTION

The above and other problems are solved and an advance in the art is made by a remote sizing and ordering system for a Coriolis flowmeter in accordance with this invention. The present invention allows a user to log in via a network connection. The network connection may either be via a modem, via Internet, via intranet, or any other network connection. The user may then orders a flowmeter that fits specification for the pipeline into which the flowmeter is to be inserted. This allows the user to order at any time of day and from anywhere in the world.

In accordance with this invention, a server computer stores and executes software that provides the remote sizing and ordering system of this invention. The server connects to a remote or client computer used by a user. The server then receives input flow stream parameters from a user. The input flow stream parameters are used by the server to determine flowmeter parameters. The flowmeter parameters are used by the server to determine whether at least one model of flowmeter suitable for the flowmeter parameters.

The server may generate a display including the at least one model suitable for the flow meter parameters. The display is transmitted to the remote computer and displayed to the customer. The user then selects one of the at least one models and transmits a request for the selection to the server. The server receives the request for at least one model.

The server may then transmit a display to the remote computer of configuration options. The user selects the configurations options and transmits the selected options to the server. The server receives the configuration options from the user. Some of the configurations options include a process connection type, the process connection size, a power supply type which may include either Alternating Current (AC) or Direct Current (DC), and whether to have a local display.

The server may receive the following input flow stream parameters; a flow rate of material, a density of material, a viscosity of material, a temperature of material, and a material operating pressure. The server calculates the following flowmeter parameters from the input flow stream parameters. The flowmeter parameters include meter accuracy, pressure loss and fluid velocity.

After the user has configured a flowmeter, the flowmeter configuration may be stored in an electronic shopping cart. The customer then places an order for a flowmeter from configured flowmeters in the shopping cart. The server generates a message and transmits the order to a manufacturing department that produces and ships the flowmeter to the customer.

One aspect of the invention includes a method for providing remote ordering and configuring of flowmeters, the method comprising the steps of:

in a server,

receiving input flow stream parameters over a network from a computer, wherein said server receives said input flow stream parameters from said computer that is remotely located from said server,

determining flowmeter parameters from said input flow stream parameters;

determining whether at least one flowmeter is suitable for said flowmeter parameters;

transmitting information on said at least one flowmeter to said computer over said network for display to a user;

receiving a selection of one of said at least one flowmeter displayed to said user from said computer over said network;

transmitting an order for said selected flowmeter to a department for shipping of said selected flowmeter to said user; and

after said user receives said select flowmeter, remotely configuring said selected flowmeter by connecting said selected flowmeter to said server through said computer.

Preferably, the method further comprises the steps of:

in the server,

transmitting configuration options to said computer over said network for display to said user; and

receiving at least one of the configuration options selected by said user.

Preferably, the step of receiving said at least one of said configuration options comprises the step of receiving a process connection type for connection to a flowmeter.

Preferably, the step of receiving a process connection type includes the step of: receiving a process connection size for said process connection type.

Preferably, the step of receiving said at least one of said configuration options comprises the step of receiving a power supply type for a flowmeter.

Preferably, the step of receiving a power supply type comprises the step of receiving a request for an Alternating Current (AC) power supply.

Alternatively, the step of receiving a power supply type comprises the step of receiving a request from a Direct Current (DC) power supply.

Preferably, the step of receiving said at least one of said configuration options comprises the step of receiving a request for a local display.

Preferably, the step of receiving said input flow stream parameters comprises the step of receiving a material flow rate.

Preferably, the step of receiving said input flow stream parameters comprises the step of receiving a material density.

Preferably, the step of receiving said input flow stream parameters comprises the step of receiving a material viscosity.

Preferably, the step of receiving said input flow stream parameters comprises the step of receiving a material temperature.

Preferably, the step of receiving said input flow stream parameters comprises the step of receiving an operating material pressure.

Preferably, the selected flowmeter comprises a Coriolis flowmeter.

Preferably, the method further comprises the step of:

in said server,

transmitting a request for said flow stream parameters over said network to said computer for display to said user.

Preferably, the method further comprises the step of adding said selected flowmeter to an electronic shopping cart.

Preferably, the step of transmitting an order for said selected flowmeter comprises the step of transmitting said order to a manufacturing department for flowmeters.

Preferably, the step of transmitting an order for said selected flowmeter comprises the steps of:

generating an e-mail of said order; and

transmitting said e-mail to said department.

Preferably, the step of determining said flowmeter parameters comprises the step of calculating flowmeter accuracy.

Preferably, the step of determining said flowmeter parameters comprises the step of calculating pressure loss.

Preferably, the step of determining said flowmeter parameters comprises the step of calculating fluid velocity.

Preferably, the network comprises the Internet.

Preferably, the step of remotely configuring said selected flowmeter comprises the step of connecting said selected flowmeter to said server over said network.

Preferably, the method further comprises the step of:

in said server,

transmitting a request for billing information to said computer over the network for display to the user, responsive to said order.

Preferably, the method further comprises the steps of:

in said server,

receiving said billing information from said computer over said network; and storing said billing information.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above and other features of this invention described in the Detailed Description below and the following drawings:

FIG. **1** illustrating an exemplary Coriolis effect mass flowmeter;

FIG. **2** illustrating a typical internet connection;

FIG. **3** illustrating an exemplary processing system;

FIG. **4** illustrating an exemplary process of this invention;

FIG. **5** illustrating an exemplary process of receiving input stream parameters;

FIG. **6** illustrating an exemplary process of determining flowmeter parameters; and

FIG. **7** illustrating an exemplary process of receiving configuration options.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The present invention relates to a system for providing remote ordering and sizing for a Coriolis flowmeter. FIG. **1** illustrates an exemplary Coriolis flowmeter that may provide a mass flow rate or other process parameter. Coriolis flowmeter **100** includes a flowmeter assembly **110** and meter electronics **150**. Meter electronics **150** are connected to a meter assembly **110** via leads **120** to provide density, mass-flow-rate, volume-flow-rate, and totalized mass-flow rate information over a path **175**.

A Coriolis flowmeter structure is described although it should be apparent to those skilled in the art that the present invention could be practiced in conjunction with any apparatus having a vibrating conduit to measure properties of material flowing through the conduit. A second example of such an apparatus is a vibrating tube densitometer which does not have the additional measurement capability provided by a Coriolis mass flowmeters.

Meter assembly **110** includes a pair of flanges **101** and **101'**, manifold **102** and conduits **103A** and **103B**. Driver **104**, pick-off sensors **105** and **105'**, and temperature sensor **107** are connected to conduits **103A** and **103B**. Brace bars **106** and **106'** serve to define the axis W and W' about which each conduit oscillates.

When Coriolis flowmeter **100** is inserted into a pipeline system (not shown) which carries the process material that

is being measured, material enters flowmeter assembly **110** through flange **101**, passes through manifold **102** where the material is directed to enter conduits **103A** and **103B**. The material then flows through conduits **103A** and **103B** and back into manifold **102** from where it exits meter assembly **110** through flange **101'**.

Conduits **103A** and **103B** are selected and appropriately mounted to the manifold **102** so as to have substantially the same mass distribution, moments of inertia and elastic modules about bending axes W—W and W'—W', respectively. The conduits **103A–103B** extend outwardly from the manifold in an essentially parallel fashion.

Conduits **103A–103B** are driven by driver **104** in opposite directions about their respective bending axes W and W' and at what is termed the first out of phase bending mode of the flowmeter. Driver **104** may comprise any one of many well known arrangements, such as a magnet mounted to conduit **103A** and an opposing coil mounted to conduit **103B** and through which an alternating current is passed for vibrating both conduits. A suitable drive signal is applied by meter electronics **150** to driver **104** via path **112**.

Pick-off sensors **105** and **105'** are affixed to at least one of conduits **103A** and **103B** on opposing top ends of the conduit to measure oscillation of the conduits. As the conduit **103A–103B** vibrates, pick-off sensors **105–105'** generate a first and second pick-off signals. The first and second pick-off signals are applied to paths **111** and **111'**. The driver signal is applied to path **112**.

Temperature sensor **107** is affixed to at least one conduit **103A** and/or **103B**. Temperature sensor **107** measures the temperature of the conduit to modify equations for the temperature of the system. Path **111"** carries temperature signals from temperature sensor **107** to meter electronics **150**.

Meter electronics **150** receives the first and second pick-off signals on paths **111** and **111'**, respectively. Meter electronics **150** processes the first and second velocity signals to compute the mass flow rate, the density, or other property of the material passing through flowmeter assembly **110**. This computed information is applied by meter electronics **150** over path **125** to a utilization means (not shown). It is known to those skilled in the art that Coriolis flowmeter **100** is similar in structure to a vibrating tube densitometer. Vibrating tube densitometers also utilize a vibrating tube through which fluid flows or, in the case of a sample-type densitometer, within which fluid is held. Vibrating tube densitometers also employ a drive system for exciting the conduit to vibrate. Vibrating tube densitometers typically utilize only a single feedback signal since a density measurement requires only the measurement of frequency and a phase measurement is not necessary. The descriptions of the present invention herein apply equally to vibrating tube densitometers.

In Coriolis flowmeter **100**, the meter electronics **150** are physically divided into 2 components a host system **170** and a signal conditioner **160**. In conventional meter electronics, these components are housed in one unit.

Signal conditioner **160** includes drive circuitry **163** and sensor signal conditioning circuitry **161**. One skilled in the art will recognize that in actuality drive circuitry **163** and sensor signal conditioning circuitry **161** may be separate analog circuits or may be separate functions provided by a digital signal processor or other digital components. Drive circuitry **163** generates a drive signal and applies an alternating drive current to driver **104** via path **112** of path **120**. The circuitry of the present invention may be included in drive circuitry **163** to provide an alternating current to driver **104**.

Path **112** contains a first and a second lead. Drive circuitry **163** is communicatively connected to sensor signal conditioning circuitry **161** via path **162**. Path **162** allows drive circuitry to monitor the incoming pick-off signals to adjust the drive signal. Power to operate drive circuitry **163** and sensor signal conditioning circuitry **161** is supplied from host system **170** via a first path **173** and a second path **174**. That may be a part of a conventional 2-wire, 4-wire cable, or a portion of a multi-pair cable.

Sensor signal conditioning circuitry **161** receives signals from first pick-off **105**, second pick-off **105'**, and temperature sensor **107** via paths **111,111'** and **111"**. Sensor signal conditioning circuitry **161** determines the frequency of the pick-off signals and may also determine properties of a material flowing through conduits **103A–103B**. After the frequency of the input signals from pick-off sensors **105–105'** and properties of the material are determined, parameter signals carrying this information are generated and transmitted to a secondary processing unit **171** in host system **170** via path **176**.

Host system **170** includes a power supply **172** and secondary processing unit **171**. Power supply **172** receives electricity from a source and converts the received electricity to the proper power needed by the system. Secondary processing unit **171** receives the parameter signals from sensor signal conditioning circuitry **161** and may perform processes needed to provide properties of the material flowing through conduits **103A–103B** needed by a user. Such properties may include but are not limited to density, mass flow rate, and volumetric flow rate.

FIG. **2** illustrates a typical internet connection which may be used to embody the invention. In FIG. **2**, remote client computer system **210** is at a customer site. Remote client computer **210** uses a modem or other networking device to connect to server **230**. If a modem is used, remote client computer **210** connects to telephone network **210** which provides a dial up connection to server **230**. Server **230** is an Internet Service Provider (ISP) for remote client computer **210**. Server **230** connects via Internet **240** to Server **250**. One skilled in the art will appreciate that Internet **240** is a network of computers that are communicatively connected. Server **250** is a server of a provider of this invention that executes processes in accordance with this invention.

FIG. **3** illustrates a block diagram of a processing system **300** that is exemplary of the computer systems such as remote client computer **210** and servers **250** and **230**.

Processing system **300** includes central processing unit (CPU) **301** capable of executing instructions stored in a memory attached to CPU **301**. CPU **301** is attached to a memory bus **310** via path **303**. Memory bus **310** is connected to Read Only Memory (ROM) **320** via path **321** and to Random Access Memory (RAM) **330** via path **331**. ROM **320** stores instructions used by CPU **301** to control the functions performed by processing system **300**. RAM **330** stores instructions such as the operating system and currently running applications, to be executed by CPU **301** as well as the data needed to perform the instructions. CPU **301** reads and writes data to RAM **303** via path **303** and bus **310**.

CPU **301** is connected to I/O bus **340** via path **304**. I/O bus **340** connects CPU **301** to peripheral devices to transmit data between CPU **301** and the peripheral devices. In the preferred exemplary embodiment, the peripheral devices connected to I/O bus **340** include keyboard **350**, mouse **360**, display **370**, nonvolatile memory (disk drive) **380**, and modem **390**. Keyboard **350** is connected to I/O bus **340** via path **341** and allows a user to input data. Mouse **360** is

connected to I/O bus **340** via path **342** and allows a user to input data by moving mouse **160** to move an icon across display **370**. Display **370** is a video monitor and associated drivers connected to I/O bus **340** via path **343** to display images to a user. Nonvolatile memory **380** is a disk drive which can read and write data to a disk or other type of media to store the data for future use and is connected to I/O bus **340** via path **344**. Modem **390** is a device which facilitates a connection of processing system **300** to telephone line **391** for communication with other computers such as a server for an Internet connection. Modem **390** is connected to I/O bus **340** via path **345**.

Process **400** is a process executed by a server to provide remote sizing and ordering of Coriolis flowmeters. Process **400** is a program written in a language such as Java or other language that facilitates communication between computers. Process **400** begins in step **405** by generating a display requesting flow stream parameters from a customer. The display may be a screen or page with fields to be filled by customer. In step **410**, the server transmits the display to the client remote computer system.

In step **415**, the server receives input flow stream parameters from a customer. The customer inputs the parameter into the remote computer which transmits the input flow stream parameters to the server.

FIG. **5** illustrates a process **500** for receiving input flow stream parameters. Process **500** begins in step **505** by receiving a flow rate of a material to flow through the flowmeter from a remote computer. In step **510**, the server receives a viscosity of the material to flow through the flowmeter. The server then receives a temperature of material to flow through the flowmeter in step **515**. In step **517**, the server receives a density of the material to flow through the flowmeter. Process **500** ends in step **520** in which the server receives an operating pressure of the material to flow through the flowmeter. One skilled in the art will know that other flow stream parameters may be added, but this is left to those skilled in the art.

Referring back to FIG. **4**, process **400** continues in step **420** by determining flowmeter parameters from the input flow stream parameters. FIG. **6** illustrates a process **600** executed by the server to calculate flowmeter parameters.

Process **600** begins in step **605** by calculating flowmeter accuracy for the input flow stream parameters. In step **610**, the server calculates pressure loss of the flow across the flowmeter based upon the input flow stream parameters. In step **615**, process **600** ends as the server calculates fluid velocity from the input flow stream parameters.

Referring back to FIG. **4**, process **400** continues by determining at least one model of flowmeter that has tolerances acceptable for the determined flowmeter parameters in step **425**. A display included all of the determined models is generated in step **430** and is transmitted to the remote client system in step **435**. In step **440**, the server receive a selection of a one of the determined models.

In response to receiving the selection, the server transmit a display of configuration options to the remote client computer system in step **445**. In step **450**, the server receives configuration options from the customer via the remote client computer system. FIG. **7** illustrates an exemplary process **700** for receiving configuration options from the remote client computer.

Process **700** begins in step **705** by receiving a type and size of process connection. One skilled in the art will recognize that a process connection is a flange or other device used to connect the flowmeter into a pipeline. In step **710**, the server receives a type of power supply to connect to the flowmeter. One skilled in the art will recognize that these may include either (AC) or (DC) power supply and may supply any different ranges of currents. These are left to designers of flowmeters. Process **700** ends in step **715** with the server receiving a request for a local display. One skilled in the art will recognize that any of this configurations may be left out or others added depending upon the designer of the system.

Referring back to FIG. **4**, process **400** continues in step **455** by storing a configured flowmeter in an electronic shopping cart. An electronic shopping cart is a database that stores configured flowmeters for a customer to choose from when making an order. It should be noted that steps **405** through **455** may be repeated any number of times by a user from almost any step in process **400** to design many different flowmeters for different uses and/or to order multiple flowmeters.

In step **460**, the server receives an order for a configured flowmeter. This may be done by the user selecting a one of the flowmeters stored in an electric shopping cart or may be received as the customer finishes configuring a flowmeter. In response to receiving an order, the server transmits a display requesting billing information from the customer in step **465**. The request may be for a billing address, a credit card account or other form of creating and/or crediting an account.

In step **470**, the server receives the billing information which is then stored for future use in billing. In step **475**, the server transmits an order to a manufacturing department which will make the flowmeter and ship the flowmeter to the customer. The order may be transmitted in an e-mail message or other such manner that includes all of the configuration data for the flowmeter.

After the flowmeter is sent to the customer, the flowmeter maybe remotely configured in step **477** by connecting a remote computer connected to the flowmeter to the server. Process **500** then ends.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing remote ordering and configuring of flowmeters, the method comprising the steps of:

in a server,

receiving input flow stream parameters over a network from a computer, wherein said server receives said input flow stream parameters from said computer that is remotely located from said server,

determining flowmeter parameters from said input flow stream parameters,

determining whether at least one flowmeter is suitable for said flowmeter parameters,

transmitting information on said at least one flowmeter to said computer over said network for display to a user,

receiving a selection of one of said at least one flowmeter displayed to said user from said computer over said network, and

transmitting an order for said selected flowmeter to a department for shipping of said selected flowmeter to said user; and

after said user receives said selected flowmeter, remotely configuring said selected flowmeter by connecting said selected flowmeter to said server through said computer.

2. The method of claim **1** further comprising the steps of:

in said server,

transmitting configuration options to said computer over said network for display to said user; and

receiving at least one of said configuration options selected by said user.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of receiving at least one of said configuration options comprises the step of:

receiving a process connection type for connection to a flowmeter.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein said step of receiving a process connection type includes the step of:

receiving a process connection size for said process connection type.

5. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of receiving at least one of said configuration options comprises the step of:

receiving a power supply type for a flowmeter.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of receiving a power supply type comprises the step of:

receiving a request for an Alternating Current (AC) power supply.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein said step of receiving a power supply type comprises the step of:

receiving a request for a Direct Current (DC) power supply.

8. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of receiving at least one of said configuration options comprises the step of:

receiving a request for a local display.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving input flow stream parameters comprises the step of:

receiving a material flow rate.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving input flow stream parameters comprises the step of:

receiving a material density.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving input flow stream parameters comprises the step of:

receiving a material viscosity.

12. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving input flow stream parameters comprises the step of:

receiving a material temperature.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving input flow stream parameters comprises the step of:

receiving an operating material pressure.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein said selected flowmeter comprises a Coriolis flowmeter.

15. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

in said server,

transmitting a request for said input flow stream parameters over said network to said computer for display to said user.

16. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

adding said selected flowmeter to an electronic shopping cart.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of transmitting an order for said selected flowmeter comprises the step of:

transmitting said order to a manufacturing department for flowmeters.

18. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of transmitting an order for said selected flowmeter comprises the steps of:

generating an e-mail of said order; and

transmitting said e-mail to said department.

19. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of determining flowmeter parameters comprises the step of:

calculating flowmeter accuracy.

20. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of determining flowmeter parameters comprises the step of:

calculating pressure loss.

21. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of determining flowmeter parameters comprises the step of:

calculating fluid velocity.

22. The method of claim 1 wherein said network comprises the Internet.

23. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of remotely configuring said selected flowmeter comprises the step of:

connecting said selected flowmeter to said server over said network.

24. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

in said server,

transmitting a request for billing information to said computer over the network for display to the user, responsive to said order.

25. The method of claim 24 further comprising the steps of:

in said server,

receiving said billing information from said computer over said network; and

storing said billing information.

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